

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Courtyard Iowa City University Heights, Iowa City, Iowa
Plus others via Zoom
Saturday, March 26, 2022
8:00 a.m. Central Time

Present:

Bruce Baumgartner, President, Chairman
Joan Fulp, 2nd Vice President
Kerry McCoy, Secretary
Van Stokes, Treasurer
Veronica Carlson
Mike Juby
Mike Macchiavello
Nate Engel
John Stefanowicz
Rob Cate
Craig LaMont
Steven Thorpe
Mallory Velte
Sally Roberts
Scott Klever
Don Reynolds
Zac Dominguez
Nick Mitchell
Katie Kriebel
Adeline Gray
James Green
Mike Moyer
Katherine Shai
Jim Considine
Rich Bender, Executive Director, ex-officio
Les Gutches, Chief Operating Officer
Gary Abbott, Director of Communications
Laura Peeters, General Counsel, Director of Safe Sport and Compliance
Pete Isaacs, Events Director
Tony Black, State Services Director
Megan Ball, Executive Assistant

1. WELCOME

President Bruce Baumgartner welcomed the Board, which included participants who were in person at the Courtyard Iowa City University Heights, as well as others who had joined virtually through Zoom.

Rich Bender thanked those in attendance, who were there for the in-person Executive Meeting as well as those who were there for the Celebration of Life for Mark Reiland, which was set for the same hotel later in the day.

Rich Bender introduced the owner of the hotel, former University of Iowa wrestler Greg Stiltner, who had donated the rooms for the USA Wrestling meetings that day. He presented a crystal globe award to Greg Stiltner as a token of appreciation. Greg Stiltner spoke to the Board, and expressed a desire to continue helping USA Wrestling as he can.

At 7:07 a.m., Bruce Baumgartner introduced the agenda for the Special Meeting and began the formal portion of the meeting.

2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Rich Bender thanked the Board for its leadership and gave the Board an update on USA Wrestling and the state of the sport. He noted that it had been an impressive year for the organization, in large part due to the work of the Board. He introduced the four core business objectives of USA Wrestling: 1) Build the Brand, 2) Grow the Base, 3) Sustained Competitive Excellence, 4) Network the wrestling community online.

For Growing the Base, USA Wrestling has been having record months in membership revenue, and was at 94% of the all-time high in membership as of late March. Under Competitive Excellence, he cited the nine Olympic medals, 15 Senior World medals, and unprecedented success at the age-group levels. He noted that the 2021-22 fiscal year was among the best financial performances in organization history. Bender also discussed the expanded communications activity within the organization. He noted the growth of wrestling for women and girls at all levels. He also praised USA Wrestling's events team for having to move the Olympic Trials at the last minute due to the pandemic, and still conduct one of the greatest Olympic Trials in history. Bender encouraged the Board to read the new Annual Report and thanked them for their tireless efforts.

3. ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER

The Board received information about the process which led to the slate of four individuals being presented to the Board for the new position of Independent Director. This is required under the USA Wrestling Bylaws and by the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee. USA Wrestling followed the strict guidelines set by the USOPC and developed a job description. There were 50 applicants, which were screened, and about half did not meet the definition of independent. Those remaining were screened by the governance committee. A group of eight candidates were then reviewed, with four individuals selected who best met the definition for the position. All of the Board members received information on the four being recommended for vote.

As President, Bruce Baumgartner had the right to recommend one candidate to the Board, and he recommended Dr. Angie Taylor. He said the recommendation was based upon the unanimous

Special Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday March 26, 2022
Page 3 of 3

vote of the Executive Committee, which met twice as part of this process. Bruce Baumgartner said that the process met the bylaws, and was thorough and diligent.

Secretary Kerry McCoy conducted the vote, which was done electronically. All of the Board of Directors at the meeting were sent a ballot, and the Board members were able to vote through USA Wrestling's membership system.

McCoy reviewed the voting and cut off the voting when the votes from the Board members at the meeting had been submitted.

Bruce Baumgartner reported that Angie Taylor had been elected as USA Wrestling's new Independent Director.

Bruce reported that the in-person Board of Directors meeting this year would be held on August 13, in conjunction with the State Leaders Summit.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 a.m. CT